



**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
February 27, 2017**

My name is Jennifer Herz and I am Counsel for the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents thousands of large and small companies throughout Connecticut. We have been representing Connecticut's employers for more than 200 years and we are proud to say the vast majority of our members are small companies employing less than 50 people.

CBIA submits this testimony in support of HB 7132 AAC An Employee's Duty to Provide Notice of a Claim for Worker's Compensation Benefits to His or Her Employer.

This bill establishes an improved procedure for worker's compensation claims for private employers, similar to PA 16-112 AAC the Filing of Worker's Compensation Claims When a Municipality is the Employer.

Our members are concerned with the current process because workers compensation claims can be inadvertently lost when they are sent to the employer without a specific department listed. This bill establishes a new procedure so that claims are directed to the HR Department and have a designated landing spot. Otherwise, claims can be sent to the wrong department or linger in the mailroom. Employers have 28 days to respond to a worker's compensation claim and if the claim gets misdirected that negatively impact the time period to respond. Cutting into the 28 day response period is a problem for employers because that means they have less time to analyze and respond to the claim.

CBIA urges your support of HB 7132 and looks forward to working with the Committee on this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to offer CBIA's comments.